

7. (Withdrawn) The roll according to claim 5, wherein the cover is of a mixture of synthetic material and rubber.

8. (Withdrawn) The roll according to claim 5, wherein the covering has a hardness equal to a hardness of quenched and tempered steel.

9. (Withdrawn) The roll according to claim 5, wherein the covering is mounted releasably on the roll body.

10. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the cover is of a mixture of synthetic material and rubber.

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action, applicant hereby elects the invention indicated by the Examiner as Group I, on which is readable claim 1. Also readable on Group I is newly added claim 10 which recites a feature of original claim 7 and depends from claim 1.

Claims 2-9 are withdrawn as being directed to non-elected inventions. Applicant retains his right to file divisional applications for the inventions of Groups II and III.

An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

F. Kueffner
Friedrich Kueffner
Reg. No. 29,482
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 910
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 986-3114

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 17, 2003

By: *F. Kueffner*
Friedrich Kueffner

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